

West Lafayette Go Greener Commission Meeting
Minutes of Regularly Scheduled Commission Meeting
Tuesday, February 14, 2012, 7:15 PM
Council Chambers, West Lafayette City Hall

Attendees: Diane Damico, Heather Gall, Gene Hanus, David Henderson, Rick Johnson, Dan Schuster, and Tom Voigt

Absent: Denise Blank, Peter Bunder, Kristin Flannelly, Allen Jacobsen, Lindsey Payne, Aparna Puri, and Josh Teasdale

Guests: Joseph Scherrer, Marc Elliot and Adam Adrian, James Stephany, Paul Sabol, and Thom Davis

Dan Schuster:

- Introduction of Tom Voigt (tcvoigt@aol.com), who will be replacing Dan on the Commission

Joseph Scherrer from Goodwill Industries:

Phone: 317-691-9169; **E-mail:** jscherrer@goodwillindy.org

- Have 3-4 trailers in Island area (2 trailers) and Armory (1 trailer), and New Chauncey (1 trailer) during move-out. 2 employees will attend each trailer.
- Trailers are 48 feet long
- Hours 8 am – 10 pm (2 shifts) for about a week (May 1st – 7th). Trailers will be locked during off hours, just like a store would be.
- Armory pick up would be only 2 days (Saturday and Sunday). 21 other agencies have priority on donations, and Goodwill will take whatever is left.
- Employees will give receipts for donations.
- Looking for volunteers (2-4 people per trailer) to help and promote the collection.
- There will also be trash bins to aid in sorting through goods that are broken and not suitable for donations.
- This has been done at the small scale at smaller universities, and this year larger efforts will be done at IUPUI and Purdue.
- Goodwill also has recycling partners for recycling metals, some glass, computers, and textiles.
- Goodwill will try to track donations so that we can calculate how much material has been averted from the landfill.
- 1 year pilot to man a truck in the Lafayette/West Lafayette area, will be ready by April 1st. Students can call Mon-Fri (8-5) and have a scheduled pick-up.

Marc Elliot and Adam Adrian from WLFI:

E-mail: marc.elliott@wlfi.com; adam.adrian@wlfi.com

- Trying to focus on what they can do to help the community in new ways.
- Started a back to school supply drive, partnered with the Salvation Army.
- Want to promote proper disposal of goods – launch an educational campaign.
- Set up in Oscar Winksy (spelling?) and Cumberland Park in West Lafayette: take away electronics, medicines, hazardous chemicals, and others. 9 am – 1pm on March 24th (Saturday): “Spring Cleaning”

- Hazardous waste disposal is still a work in progress because of issues regarding Wildcat Creek

James Stephany: Hoosier Recycling and Paul Sabol: Packaging Systems

E-mail: jstep30@yahoo.com; psabol@packaging-systems.com

- Geared towards industrial recycling
- Make angle-boards from 100% recycled plastic (made from grocery bags!)
- Starting efforts to recycle Styrofoam
- 90:1 ratio (densify Styrofoam and get all the air out)
- Photo of raw material after densification:



- Separate various types of “Styrofoam” (polystyrene, polyethylene, and some which have slight color tints) before making their final products
- They have several types of balers (make 30-40 lb bale) for sorting plastic films, Styrofoam types, etc.
- They do some book shredding and cardboard shredding
- Paper is then recycled for toilet paper and paper towels
- Styrofoam from Subaru, cardboard from local sources (there are even some pick-ups at local gas stations), plastics from factories in Indy and Lebanon
- More geared towards industrial waste and not geared towards the general public
- They would be interested in participating in collection days to get plastic bags, plastic film, and packaging Styrofoam (not food-grade or food trays)
- We want them to be part of the “Green Tour”!

Thom Davis from Oscar Winski eWaste Recycling:

- They are making a banner for us!! This will increase our visibility at events.
- WLF I will help with the design (font package, better quality logo)
- Collected 8,500 lbs of electronics during first event in November. 2nd event on February 4th 15,715 lbs of computers and electronics!!
- Cars were lined up down 231 for the drop off!
- They are planning another event that they expect to be an even bigger success.

Gene Hanus:

- Bring 27% recycling up to 50%
- Run a door-to-door survey on April 28th and 29th in Indian Trails neighborhood (564 homes out of 5,000)
- Will need walk lists!

- Gene has made an initial survey draft. Would they recycle more if they had a larger bin?
- 50 volunteers to conduct the survey
- Mayor is in full support of conducting the survey. He wants to review it first before it gets sent out and may add additional questions.
- Goal is to have free 48 gallon totes to provide to Indian Trails.
- Assess the amount of recycling that increases after the totes have been distributed.
- Want to include flyers on what can be recycled and where to take items for proper disposal.
- Will need someone to write a press release (Gene volunteers Heather and she accepts)
- City should be able to cover printing costs of the survey and flyers

Rick Johnson:

- Purdue's Energy Master Plan is going up for comments tomorrow
- He doesn't see any real sacrifice or stringent goals in the plan
- We will be dependent on one of the coal boilers until 2041
- Plan says that it will be replaced with a natural gas system, but the problem with the plan is that there is no real plan after that.
- They say that the cost is too great to justify "clean" energy initiatives, but what will happen if/when carbon taxes are implemented?
- Each of the clean energy alternatives are crossed out individually, and not considered as a group, with natural gas as part of that collective movement towards a visionary plan.
- The public comment period is tomorrow. There is an hour allotted for the comments.

Diane:

- We need to clarify when the Commission should have an opinion or recommendation regarding public issues.

Heather:

- American Water Environmental Grant Program
- We can ask for up to \$10,000 to fund a water-related program
- Has to be a significant expansion of a current program or be a new program
- Potentially can expand the cooking oil collection program
- Will email the Commissioners and see if others have ideas for the grant
- Grant is 4 pages, and due March 9th
- Projects must start between May and August 2012